

# The Club Model at The Haven

The Haven, the after school program offered by Children and Family Urban Movement (CFUM), began to develop their club model four years ago. They did so after a change in the school calendar made every Wednesday an early release day for students. Program leaders, looking for a way to ensure students remained engaged and continued learning during this time, turned to the club model and have not looked back!

Every Wednesday, groups of five to ten students in grades K-5 meet in their clubs for 45 minutes. Clubs are organized into six-week sessions. At the end of each six-week session students have the opportunity to select a new club. Clubs that have been offered in the past include:

Art	Food and Garden	Math	Reader's Theater
Boy Scouts	Girl Scouts	Origami	Science
Computers	Healthy Me	Poetry	We Are The World
Drama	Little's Rock	Puppeteering	Yoga

Since implementing their club model, The Haven has seen a significant increase in attendance on Wednesdays. More students are attending and they are staying longer. When asked why she looks forward to Wednesdays, Kali, a 2<sup>nd</sup> grade student reported, "I think clubs are awesome! You get really smart!"

A number of individuals and organizations have contributed to the success of the club model over the past four years. Program staff and volunteers lead some clubs, while others are made possible through partnerships with community organizations. With six-week sessions in place, volunteers and community organizations are able to sign up for the session(s) that works best with their individual schedules.

To learn more about the Haven's club model, contact Janelle Mueller, K-5<sup>th</sup> Grade Program Director at [janelle@cfum.org](mailto:janelle@cfum.org).

